

REMARKS

Claims 85-108 are pending. In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed November 22, 2005, Applicants elect Group I, Claims 85-92, 107, and 108, without traversal. Applicants withdraw Claims 93-106 from examination. Applicants reserve the right to pursue these claims in a divisional application.

Applicants respectfully traverse the species election requirement. Applicants note that a search of the complete invention claimed in Group I would not be unduly burdensome on the Examiner and respectfully request that such a search be performed. Additionally, many of the particular species noted in the Office Action, are recited in the claims in Group II and are not actually recited as elements in the claims of Group I. As Applicants have elected Group I, it is unclear how selection of these elements will facilitate the Examiner's search. The elected claims are generally directed to the prediction of a binding affinity by combining at least two predicted affinities, where the two affinities are determined by different predictive methods. Thus, focusing the search to a single feature of one predictive method would seem to miss part of the claimed invention.

However, in order to supply a complete Response, Applicants elect, with traverse, as follows:

Species I, (iii) amino acids;
Species II, (iii) positional dependencies; and
Species III, (i) dimensionality reduction.

All of the elected claims read on , and are generic to the elected species. The Examiner noted that Claims 85-103 and 107 were generic to the above species. Applicants submit that Claim 108 is also generic to the above species. Applicants note that this election is not meant to define or limit the scope of the claims.

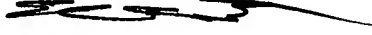
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Applicants submit that the present Application is in condition for examination on the merits and respectfully request the same.

Respectfully submitted,

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